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COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ REPORT \_\_\_\_\_ 50X1-HUM

TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_ Military Information from the Engineer Training Area in Pitzkau.

EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF CONTENT \_\_\_\_\_ 50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE PREPARED 3 November 1952

REFERENCES \_\_\_\_\_

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

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1. On 17 September 1952, a small column consisting of 2 trucks carrying bridge-building equipment, a crane and a large amphibious car transporting 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets passed through Grieben near Pitzkau (M 53/Y 83). The column proceeded in the direction of Tangermünde. 50X1-HUM

On 18 September, a large number of trucks carrying pontoons, bridge-building equipment and billeting equipment, many jeeps and sidecar motorcycles were seen in Grieben coming from the direction of Pitzkau and Tangerhütte. One column seen there included jeep 23 sidecar motorcycles occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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2. In the afternoon on 18 September, 4 sedans and 12 motorcycles were at the Elbe River dike near Grieben-Schelldorf. The sedans were occupied by high-ranking officers. some of the officers were generals. Three 37-mm AA guns and 4 machine guns were emplaced at the dike. At 2:30 p.m., Grieben was raided by 4 fighter bombers while 2 jet aircraft were seen at a high altitude. Four T-34 tanks were seen in Grieben at 6 p.m. An undetermined number of motor vehicles coming from all directions including vehicles carrying bridge-building equipment, amphibious cars, both large and small, JS tank and prime mover were seen in Grieben on 19 and 20 September. Sixteen trucks, 12 motorcycles, and 6 PA-64 armored scout cars stood at the Grieben-Pitzkau road fork on 19 September. A field kitchen served meals to the soldiers. Forty motor vehicles were assembled at the Grieben forest between 3 and 4 km north of Polte. The forest was blocked off and tents housing guards with red brassards were seen at numerous intersections. A komendatura was established in Grieben on 17 September. large field exercises would soon be held.

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September, included a column of trucks [redacted]

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(1)

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3. During the period from early September to 10 September, Camp Polte was vacated except for a guard detail of about 80 soldiers. At 6 p.m. on 11 September, a column of radio trucks equipped with rod antennas between 3 and 4 meters long, arrived in Wittkau. The column came from the direction of Grieben and later proceeded toward Polte. [redacted] drivers of this column [redacted] come from field exercises in the area of Arneburg [redacted]. While proceeding toward Polte, the column repeatedly stopped on the road without the personnel leaving the vehicles. The soldiers of this column wore red-bordered black epaulets and some black-bordered black epaulets. [redacted]

(2)

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4. On 11 September, a train carrying 30 trucks [redacted] passed through Zielitz coming from Stendal and proceeding to Magdeburg.
5. On 11 September, a train consisting of 4 boxcars carrying personnel who wore red-bordered black epaulets and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 52 trucks, including 6 towing light AT guns, and 4 field kitchens arrived in Wolkestadt, coming from Magdeburg. [redacted]

(3)

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6. On 10 September, the inner camp in Wittkau was only partially occupied. [redacted] saw numerous new low wooden buildings. The Wittkau-Cobbel road was no longer blocked to civilian traffic. Numerous trucks [redacted] parked at the woods camp. Trucks [redacted] were seen entering and leaving the camp. (2)

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## [ ] Comments.

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- (1) It is believed that engineer units including primarily those of the Third Gds Army, were engaged in exercises in the area of Tangerhuetten-Schellldorf and Pittkau. [ ] engineer units of all divisions and headquarter units and army engineers of the army were involved. [ ] a train carrying units of the 35th Engr Regt [ ] of the army which went from Sporenberg to Tangerhuetten on 15 September 1952, tend to indicate that the field exercises began about 17 September. [ ] There is reason to believe that the exercises were still under way on 20 September. Motor vehicles of the Third Shock Army are believed to belong to units stationed at the Pittkau engineer training area rather than to units involved in these exercises, although units of the Third Shock Army and the 6th Arty Div were unloaded in Muhlwinkel, south of Tangerhuetten, during the period from 27 to 29 September. These units were probably unloaded for the fall maneuvers of the army. [ ]
- (2) The engineer camp in Pittkau was probably partially vacated by engineer units of the Third Shock Army for the fall maneuvers of the army which began in the area of Letzling Heath-Rathenow-Havelberg on about 23 September. [ ] the column of radio trucks observed on 11 September belonged to the aforementioned army. [ ]
- (3) The train which went to Magdeburg on 11 September carried trucks of the Third Shock Army in Magdeburg while the train which arrived in Wolmirstedt on the [ ]

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